



16th Special Operations Wing

Hurlburt Field, Fla.

May 24, 2001

Hurlburt Field rocked by recent accidents

by Staff Sgt.
William J. Seabrook Jr.
Public Affairs

May 6 – A Hurlburt Field airman is critically injured after a motorcycle accident.

May 7 – A Hurlburt Field airman breaks both legs and an arm after crashing his motorcycle.

May 8 – Airman John Meade, 16th Aircraft Generation Squadron, is killed in a single vehicle accident on Interstate 10 at 3:30 a.m. while returning from leave.

May 14 – A civilian motorcyclist dies after being struck by vehicle driven by a base airman.

May 15 – Airman 1st Class Brandon Beard, 4th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, is killed after the vehicle he was passenger in crashed on Martin Luther King Boulevard.

Above is a list of accidents that have befallen Hurlburt Field airmen in the past several weeks and unfortunately the “101 Critical Days of Summer” doesn’t even begin until Monday.

“In three years in this job I’ve never seen this sort of sequence of mishaps, injuries and tragedies in such a short time span,” said Col. Dennis Barnett, 16th Special Operations Wing vice commander. “We have to do something to break this chain.”

There will always be accidents. However, by using personal risk management it’s possible to greatly reduce the chances of one occurring.

“We’re never going to totally eliminate risk in our business and we certainly can’t eliminate risk on the roads and at the beach and a thousand other places,” said Colo-

nel Barnett. “However, it’s imperative to remember we’re not invincible and bad decisions will have bad consequences.”

This wing has a viable operational risk management program and it’s been used to greatly reduce the number of incidents that occur while conducting what can be an extremely hazardous mission, he said. The majority of the accidents listed above, however, occurred during off-duty time.

Hurlburt Field is located in a great area to enjoy all sorts of outdoor activities and most can be conducted safely when the right decisions are made to mitigate risk.

“I’m not asking people sit inside all summer and not partake in any of the great activities available in the local area,” said Colonel Barnett. “What I want everyone to remember is that if we’re smart we can do them safely and nobody else needs to get hurt or die.”

As part of today’s Safety Day, there will be presentations, commanders calls and various briefing designed to help base people reflect on how to be safe during the 101 Critical Days of Summer,



Courtesy photo

Airman 1st Class Brandon Beard, 4th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, was killed when this vehicle crashed, rolling several times.

according to the colonel. People should pay close attention to this awareness training and apply it to their everyday lives.

“We not only need all of our people, young and old, to successfully accomplish our mission, we also care about them deeply as human beings,” said Colonel Barnett. “We care about their spouses, children, parents and grandparents. We don’t want to have to break the news to any more families about preventable tragedies.”

There will also be a safety day message from Col. David Scott, 16th SOW

commander, shown in video format at the unit functions. “What you do for a living isn’t a normal job and I’m not a normal boss. I have a commitment not only to you but also to your families’ to protect you and not to overwork you,” said Colonel Scott. “I can do that while you’re on the job, but I need you to help me while you’re off-duty and think before you take a risk that could forever alter your life and your families’ lives. I care about all of you individually and don’t want to see anyone else hurt or killed. So please have fun and enjoy this great assignment, but be safe while you’re doing it.”

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VIEWPOINTS

Open Line

The Commander's Open Line is your direct line to me for questions or suggestions about subjects of concern to the Hurlburt Field community.

To receive a response, leave your name, unit and telephone number.

Open lines of general interest will be printed in the **COMMANDO**. Others will be answered by letter or phone call. Remember, the quickest and most efficient way to resolve a problem is to talk directly to the agency responsible. This gives them an opportunity to help you, and perhaps improve their process. However, if you're not satisfied with the answer you receive, feel free to give me a call at 884-OPEN (6736), or email your concerns to commando@hurlburt.af.mil.



Col. David Scott
Commander, 16th SOW

mother myself and I was just wondering what can be done about this for the safety of the children?

Reply: To promote safety in our housing areas, we require all children operating bicycles on base to wear bicycle helmets. They must have a light on the front and a reflector on the back of their bikes at night. All parents should be aware of these rules. While our security forces members will stop and talk to children they observe violating those rules, enforcement is something that must be done at home. Parents, please protect your kids.

On another note, we're currently designing a skatepark, better playgrounds and expanded network of bicycle trails in the area behind the child development center and throughout the Soundside area. Hopefully, more attractive options will reduce the need for kids to ride in the street or skate in dangerous areas.

Safety at night

Comment: We live in base housing

and there are always children playing in the street after dark, riding their bikes with no safety equipment on. I'm a

101 critical days of summer arrive

by **Mr. Keith Swanson**
Ground Safety Office

Monday marks the beginning of the Air Force's "101 Critical Days of Summer" safety campaign.

The campaign spans the three-month period from Memorial Day to Labor Day – a time when more airmen are injured or killed than any other time of the year.

Throughout the Air Force during last year's 101 Critical Days, 19 airmen died – one on duty, 18 off duty. Fortunately, the 16th Special Operations Wing suffered no fatal accidents and no serious injuries during last year's 101 Critical Days of Summer. However, several accidents resulted in injury to people and damage to equipment. Each serves as a reminder that we are always in danger and continuously vulnerable.

Our goal again this year is to turn 101 Critical Days of Summer into 101 Mishap-Free Days of Summer. We cannot achieve this goal without your help and commitment. By focusing on three things – leadership, responsibility, and operational risk management – you can reduce the possibility you'll be involved in an accident or injury.

First, exercise leadership by identifying and understanding the limitations and risks of your daily activities with fellow special operations forces teammates, families and friends. You must not hesitate to take appropriate action when you or others around you are faced with excessive or unnecessary risk

of accident or injury.

Second, take responsibility to look after yourself, family, friends and coworkers, and use good common sense and sound judgement in both on- and off-duty activities.

"Nineteen airmen died throughout the Air Force during last year's 101 Critical Days."

– Mr. Keith Swanson,
Ground Safety Office

Finally, use ORM to consciously evaluate the risks in your activities and help you make sound decisions. ORM is a logical way to approach anything you do – whether planning a complex mission or a trip to the beach.

By applying the following principles you will have the basic tools to minimize on- and off-duty risks: first, accept no unnecessary risks; second, make smart risk decisions with your SOW teammates, families and friends; third, accept risks only if the benefits outweigh the costs; and finally, account for risk in your planning. If the risk outweighs the benefit, find another way to do it or find something else to do.

During Safety Day, today, your unit and various support agencies will

provide safety presentations and activities designed to inform you of the hazards associated with summer activities and show you how to reduce the possibility of an accident, injury, or mishap.

Special emphasis should be placed on use of protective equipment, dangers of drinking and driving and water related events, and the use of risk management in everything we do.

We'll kick off this year's safety campaign with a summer safety video production, which will be viewed at each unit. Also, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will be conducting courtesy boat inspections at the outdoor recreation parking lot from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. today, Saturday and Sunday. The 16th SOW Safety Office will have a display with summer safety handouts in front of the Base Exchange Mini Mall from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct a Small Boat Handling Course at the Hurlburt Outdoor Recreation facility on Monday and Wednesday evenings from June 6 through June 27. People can register for the course by contacting outdoor recreation at 884-6939.

Remember, mishaps can be avoided. Whether you are on or off duty, you are at risk of accident or injury. Apply the principles of ORM to minimize those risks and take preventive measures. Let's turn these 101 Critical Days into 101 Mishap-Free Days. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!



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For the record

The article "IOS program best in DOD," published in the May 18 COMMANDO stated it's the second time in three years the 25th Information Operations Squadron has won a DOD-level Command Language Program award was incorrect. The 25th IOS won the Air Force-level CLP award twice in the last three years. This is the first year it has won the DOD-level award.

NEWS



Photo by Capt. Carol Kanode

Hollywood calls

A film production crew, creating a documentary for the Discovery Channel, interviewed survival, evasion, resistance and escape, or SERE specialist, Staff Sgt. Justin Sumerlin, 16th Operations Support Squadron, May 11 on survival techniques taught to aircrew members. The show, expected to air in December, is tentatively called "Nightriders." It features the special operations role in the May 1999 rescue of the downed F-16 pilot in Kosovo among others. While here, the crew also interviewed Staff Sgt. Andy Kubik, 23rd Special Tactics Squadron, for his role in the rescue.

Weapons course comes to special ops

by Capt. Carol Kanode
Public Affairs

Detachment 1, 16th Operations Group, is a new organization with intent to produce weapons officers. The organization came a few steps closer to fruition when it held an open house May 7 to educate base people on its goals.

Modeled after the United States Air Force Weapons School at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., the Weapons Instructor Course here is being developed specifically for Air Force special operators. Already supplied with 18 cadre, consisting of mainly MH-53 Pave Low and AC-130 Gunship aircrew, the detachment aims to begin teaching students the six-month course in January 2002.

Initially, according to Det. 1 Commander, Lt. Col. Christopher "Hoser" Connelly, they'll teach Pave Low and Gunship students, but plans are in place to develop a MC-130 Talon syllabus.

Upon graduation from the course, "We want the Air Force Special Operations Command weapons officers to have an expertise in targeting, target validation and force application," Colonel Connelly said. "They'll also have expertise in joint and combined operations, command and control applications and force planning." Additionally, the students will have graduate-level knowledge in Special Operations Forces mission employment events and

employment doctrine; a knowledge and capability to support SOF requirements; will be able to give dynamic and continuous tactical inputs to squadron flight training sorties and training programs; and have the capability to capture institutional memory in tactics and tactical operations. In short, the weapons school graduate will be the authority on their own weapon system, as well as very knowledgeable on all SOF weapons systems.

"The squadron gains an advisor to the commander on tactics, employment and integration issues," said Capt. Lance Tilghman, MH-53 course instructor. "Squadron commanders are our customers. The student is the product for the commander to use."

Capt. Kelly "Gas" Passmore, MC-130P instructor pilot, echoed his words. "The goal is the graduate will be able to talk about everything AFSOC owns."

The course, initially funded by AFSOC but with plans to align under Air Combat Command, currently reports directly to the 16th Operations Group. "I feel fortunate to be in a position to shepherd this course," said Col. Robert Leonik, 16th Operations Group commander. "There is no time to study during a battle. In the heat of combat, it is simply a case of doing what is possible, to make use of what one knows. In order to make the impossible possible, you have to study and prepare before you fight."

"The WIC is an excellent vehicle to hone the tactical edges of our aircrews – to make them much more lethal,

"The WIC is the dawning of a new era for AFSOC and for Special Ops aviation."

– Col. Robert Leonik,
16th Operations Group commander

much more effective. As we work to improve our integration with the conventional Air Force, we must learn as they learn – so we can fight as they fight. According to Army Gen. George Patton, Jr., 'untutored courage is useless in the face of educated bullets. The WIC is the dawning of a new era for us – a new era for AFSOC and for Special Ops aviation,' he said.

The WIC teaches two weeks of only academics at Nellis AFB, 19 weeks here and three weeks of mission employment at Nellis AFB. While at Hurlburt Field, course participants integrate some of their WIC training by working with the squadrons to get flying sorties. The rest of the crew on the flight benefits from the training too, according to Colonel Connelly. Once completing the WIC, graduates are marked for five years in a weapons-coded billet. The ideal candidate to attend WIC is a mid-level captain who'll then be placed back in the squadron.

4th SOS airman rescues boy

by Ian Stern
Public Affairs

On the afternoon of May 5, Tech. Sgt. Charles Hughes, a sensor operator with the 4th Special Operations Squadron; his wife, Sandra, and three sons Jonathan, 9, Ian, 5, and David, 8, months, were enjoying the sand and surf of the Gulf of Mexico approximately one mile west of the Destin Bridge. They had been there some time and were getting ready to leave, according to Sergeant Hughes.

"There had been about 20 people in the area including a woman with two boys around 12 years old," said Sgt. Hughes. "The woman left the beach to get a camera and in the meantime the two boys were carried away from

shore by a riptide. The boys continued to float away from shore."

"When the mother of the two returned she called the boys to return for some picture taking," he said, "but she noticed the boys were in trouble. The woman began screaming for them to return to shore but they weren't able. My wife noticed the commotion and the boy's predicament and brought it to my attention. I estimated the boys were at least 150 yards out and tiring fast."

"I entered the water and made my way toward them," he said. "Another man joined me on the way to the boys."

"The current was the strongest I've felt in my five years of swimming the local beaches. It took us 15 minutes to reach the boys, who were exhausted by this time.

"I grabbed one boy and the other man got the second," said Sergeant Hughes. "We started working our way back to shore. The boy I had was scared and forced me under the water four times. We made it back to a sand bar and started making our way to shore, parallel to the beach, to overcome the pull of the tide."

"It took 20 minutes to reach shore with the boys and we handed them over to their thankful mother, who immediately left," he said. "I can't help thinking as Memorial Day weekend approaches how often we underestimate the danger of the water and other Summer activities here in Northwest Florida," said Sergeant Hughes. "I would encourage all who play in and near the water to use the utmost caution."

Holiday hours

Friday hours
The following facilities will operate on modified hours Friday:

Facility	Hours
Clothing sales	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Mini-mall food court	Closed
Mini-mall shoppette	Closed
Burger King	6 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Mini-mall barber	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Alltel	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
GNC	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Laundry and dry cleaners	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Alterations	9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Saturday – All mini mall facilities are closed.

Memorial Day hours
The following are the operating hours for some Hurlburt Field facilities:

Facility	Hours
Main store	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Military clothing and sales	Closed
Autopride	24 hours
Mini-mall shoppette	Closed
Base exchange	Closed
Burger King	10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
BX barber shop	11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
All other BX concessions are closed.	

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff sends Memorial Day message

by Gen. Henry H. Shelton
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

Since 1868, Americans have celebrated Memorial Day to honor those who fought and died to preserve our freedom.

We set aside one day each year to pause and reflect on the debt of gratitude we owe to the brave patriots who stood in the breach when the defense of liberty demanded the ultimate sacrifice.

Perhaps President John F. Kennedy captured the spirit of this holiday best when he said, "A nation reveals itself not only by the men it produces, but also by the men it honors, the men it remembers."

By honoring the men and women who have sacrificed their lives to protect our freedom, we

ensure that their heroic spirit will live on in this new century.

Indeed, this spirit is alive and well in today's Armed Forces.

In the mountains of Bosnia, along the DMZ in Korea, in the rocky Sinai desert, in the skies over Iraq, and the blue waters of the Pacific, our soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen stand watch – day and night – guarding freedom's frontier. Today, as in the past, they bear the burdens that make America's blessings possible for all its citizens.

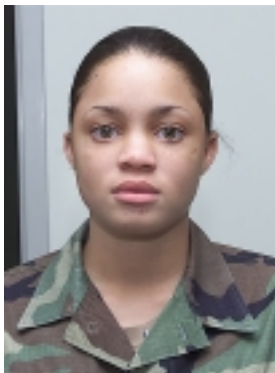
The Joint Chiefs of Staff and I join every American in honoring those who gave their lives – and all of their tomorrows – so that we might live in peace. We also salute the dedicated men and women of today's Armed Forces who actively preserve this noble legacy.

Use waste receptacles
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For more information on recycling, call 884-7577.

Look who's talking: If you could take a class on any subject, what would it be and why?



"I'd like to take a computer class, because I like working on them and I find them interesting."

**Airman 1st Class
Angel Murray,**
16th Logistics
Group



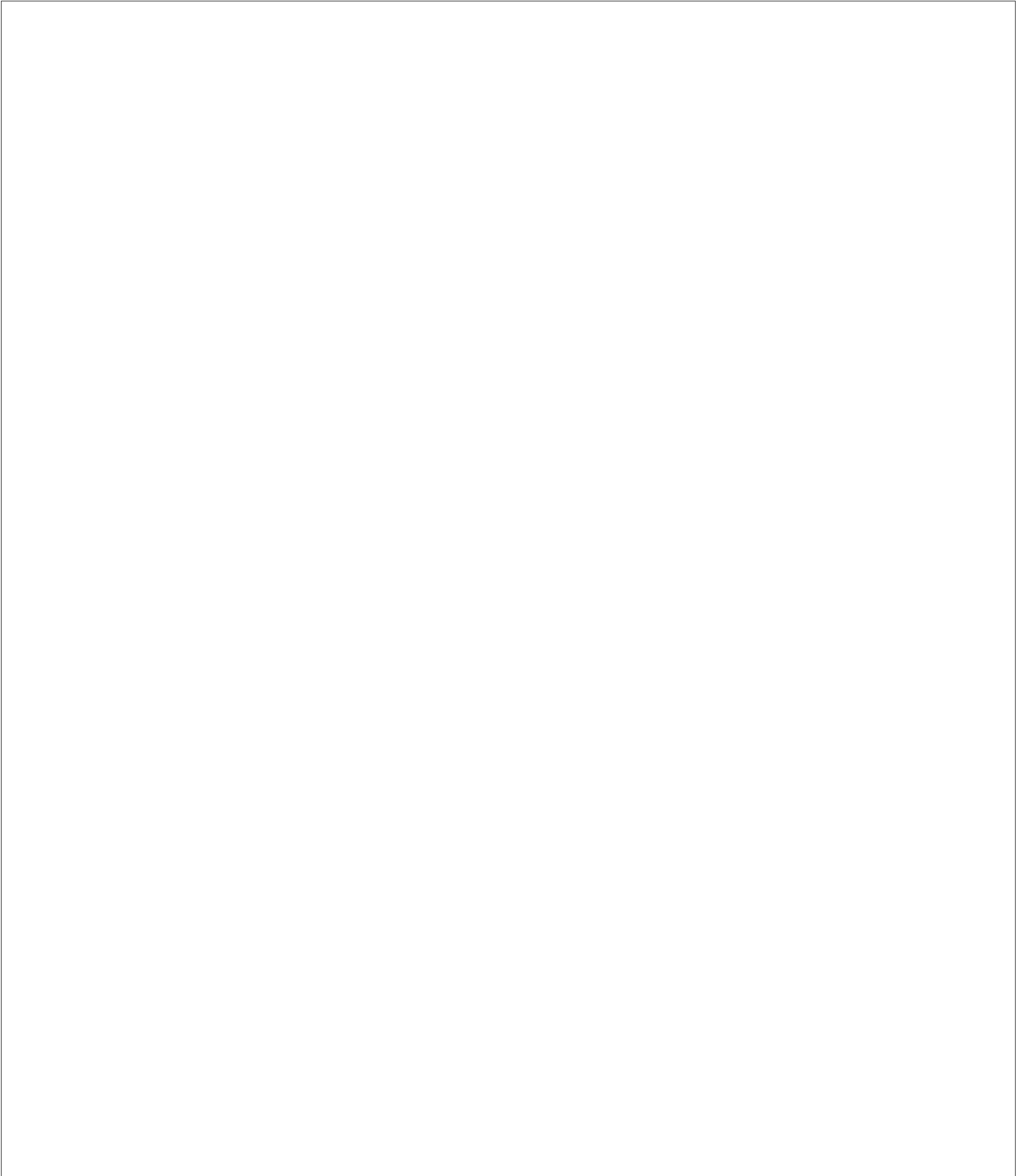
"Ethics and Morals. I feel American morals are declining and everyone should take this type of class."

Larry Paskoff,
16th Logistics
Support Squadron



"Sign language. It's a second language and easy to learn since we all talk with our hands anyway."

Teri Schwartz,
Hurlburt Field
Youth Center



Wife of EMS sergeant saves 4-year-old boy

by 2nd Lt. Rosemary Heiss
Public Affairs

Not every hero at Hurlburt Field wears a uniform.

Lori Gray, wife of Tech. Sgt. Mike Gray, 16th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, saved a four-year-old boy from drowning May 2 at a swimming pool in Blue Water Bay.

Trace, son of Okaloosa county residents Theron and Tori Chiasson, tripped over a towel and fell into the pool where he lay at the bottom for three to five minutes because he couldn't swim.

Another boy at the pool saw Trace on the bottom, and thought he was just holding his breath. He swam down anyway to see if Trace was okay, and discovered he wasn't conscious.

The boy and a man nearby, pulled Trace's lifeless body from the water. A bystander yelled for a lifeguard. Mrs. Gray heard the call as she was leaving and returned to offer assistance.

Finding no pulse or breathing, Mrs. Gray and Trace's father be-

gan cardiopulmonary resuscitation and continued for four minutes until Trace began breathing on his own.

"It was the worst thing I've ever been through," said Mrs. Chiasson. "We're extremely grateful for what Lori did."

When paramedics arrived, they said Mrs. Gray's immediate response with CPR was "paramount" in saving Trace's life.

Mrs. Gray wasn't so impressed with her own actions.

"I just did what I had to do — what I was trained to do," she said. "The boy that found him at the bottom of the pool was the real hero."

Mrs. Gray gets annual CPR training because of her job as a health assistant at Mary Esther Elementary School.

"I've had a lot of training," Mrs. Gray said, "and you just hope someone would do the same for your child."

Trace was flown to Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola where he made a complete recovery and was released the next day.

AFOSI returns millions of dollars to Air Force

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio — By being proactive, Air Force Office of Special Investigations agents have recovered more than \$120 million for the Air Force since 1999.

"Most people don't know this, but AFOSI is one of the few federal law enforcement agencies that doesn't wait for crimes to be reported to us," said Col. Richard Law, the First Field Investigations Region commander here. "We try to find crimes being committed as early as possible because that eliminates potential losses if you catch [them] early."

Economic or fraud investigations receive a significant amount of AFOSI resources, Colonel Law said.

"We're very, very proactive, working with security forces and other law enforcement agencies," Colonel Law said. "We have people working for us who give us information. Typically, it's a good airman or civilian saying

'this is wrong,' and they come and tell us."

In a recent fraud investigation, AFOSI recovered more than \$16 million, the largest civil settlement recovery for the U.S. Attorney's Office. The case began in 1984 when a \$2 billion contract was awarded to construct a command, control and communications air defense system for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Air Force officials managed the contract. An investigation was launched after an audit indicated the contractor made false claims against the government. The vast majority of contractors however, do not operate this way, AFOSI officials said.

"Ninety-nine point nine percent of the contractors we work with are exceptional people doing a great job," Colonel Law said. "But you have those few who try to do what they shouldn't be doing and commit something illegal, and that's what we're here for." (AFPN)

Switch to MilMod slated for June 4

**by Senior Master Sgt.
Brian Johnston**
*16th Mission Support
Squadron*

The Air Force begins using a modernized personnel data system, June 4.

The switch to MilMod, which stands for military modernization, replaces 1970s technology, which continues as the system of record until June 4.

The new system will support all "life cycle" personnel management functions from recruiting through job assignment and ultimately separation or retirement. All personnel records, including Guard, Reserve and active duty, are at Air Force Personnel Center and serviced from the field. MilMod will allow more than 15,000 users real-time access to the Air Force's personnel database of 1.7 million records and eliminate duplicate data entry, that under the current system could cause major delays in the completion of a single personnel action.

The entire Air Force, including the Hurlburt Field Military Personnel Flight, will begin the transition to MilMod Friday.

During the transition period, the military personnel flight and commander's support staffs won't be able to generate personnel products, such as record review listings and performance report notices.

For more information, visit the MilMod Web site at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/modern.

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Three Hurlburt Field people convicted by courts-martial

by **Tech. Sgt. Mark Smith**
and **Staff Sgt. Stephanie Littlefield**
Legal office

In the first two weeks of May, three Airmen were court-martialed and convicted of various charges and specifications punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. All three courts-martials involved drug use.

Tech. Sgt. Stephen Purshock, 16th Services Squadron, pled guilty to wrongful use of marijuana at a special court-martial held May 3. A panel of officers and enlisted members sentenced him to 30 days confinement, 60 days hard labor without confinement, reduction to senior airman and a reprimand.

Airman Alan Pate, Detachment 1, 334th Training Squadron, pled guilty at a general court-martial held May 8 to attempting to wrongfully introduce, use and distribute a controlled substance on Hurlburt Field, and wrongful inhaling HFC-134A, with the intent to become intoxicated. A panel of officers sentenced him to confinement for six months, and forfeiture of \$750 pay per month for six months.

Airman Mitchell Yager, Detachment 1, 334th Training Squadron, pled guilty at a general court-martial held May 9 to wrongful use of ecstasy and marijuana. A military judge sentenced him to a bad conduct discharge and eight months confinement.



Photo by 2nd Lt. David Ware
Melissa Sigrist paints a child's face during a picnic at the family support center May 19.

FSC picnic unites families

Children and spouses of Hurlburt Field's remote, deployed and temporary duty members got together to enjoy a picnic at the family support center May 19, sponsored by the FSC's "Hearts Apart" program and the Enlisted Spouses Council. While the children enjoyed games and a barbecue, the parents had a chance to share common experiences while they're managing households during their sponsors' absence. Each of the children took home a goodie bag filled with candy, fun stamps, stickers, bookmarks and a toy.

Tech. Sgt. Karen Guilmette, FSC family readiness manager, meets with sponsors and families to discuss readiness issues in preparation for deployment or remote tours, and organizes monthly get-togethers for the families of our deployed and remote families.

"Waiting for the return of a spouse can be very stressful for families," said the sergeant. "The chance to share experiences often lightens the load and helps the time pass more quickly. We try to provide whatever support we can to ease the burden to managing everything alone."

Call 884-5441 to get more information on morale calls, free childcare, free oil changes, videophone and email capability, reunion, separation and long distance parenting techniques plus a variety of coloring books and activities to help children adapt to being separated from a parent.

New program brings more choices to re-enlisting airmen

WASHINGTON—Airmen will soon have a new way to re-enlist, offering them more control over separations and retirements and possibly bringing more money into the pockets of those eligible for bonuses. Upon implementation of the Air Force's Military Personnel Data System Modernization program, tentatively set for the beginning of June, airmen re-enlisting will fall under the Full Enlistment Program. Full enlistment will allow airmen to specify the number of years and months they wish to re-enlist. They must re-enlist for a minimum of four years and a maximum of six. This program allows re-enlistment to high-year-tenure, using a combination of yearly and monthly increments. Senior airmen may not exceed their high-year-of-tenure, and those eligible to retire may not exceed their HYT plus one month.

The program also has another major change from the current system in that airmen are required to fulfill their entire re-enlistment contract, said Master Sgt. Mai Pederson, chief of enlisted skills management.

"Under the current program, any unserved obligation from the previous enlistment contract is absorbed within the new contract. Full enlistment will require airmen to add any unserved obligation to their re-enlistment contract," she said. "This revised re-enlistment policy requires re-enlistees to fulfill all unserved contractual periods along with their new re-enlistment contract."

For example, if more than 29 days remain until an airman's date of separation, the period will be counted as one month. If 29 days or less remain, the days will not be added to the new contract. If an airman's date of separation is July 15, and the airman decides to re-enlist May 1 for four years, the airman's remaining obligated service is two months and 15 days. The airman's new period of re-enlistment will be four years and two months because the remaining 15 days are less than 29 days and are therefore not included. If this same airman was eligible for a Selective Re-enlist-

ment Bonus and re-enlisted for four years and two months, the new SRB would be paid for four years because the airman was already paid for the two months in the previous re-enlistment. The two months of obligated service would not be recouped because it would be served in the new contract.

This program was developed to help improve the current retention situation, Sergeant Pederson said.

Airmen may re-enlist under the current system until MilMod implementation, after which they must use the Full Enlistment Program.

The Air Force has been reviewing its force, stability and sustainment policies. It has found artificial constraints—combined with falling retention rates—have made a significant impact on its ability to maintain a viable force, said personnel officials at the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. They added that the future Air Force depends on people completing their obligated periods of service. The Full Enlistment Program was created to help maximize that investment.

The re-enlistment window has also been expanded from three months before the estimated time-in-service date to 12 months. This was changed to allow second term and career airmen more flexibility on re-enlistment dates.

"This (system) gives airmen more control over their careers by allowing them to re-enlist in a combination of yearly and monthly increments," Sergeant Pederson said. "Under the Full Enlistment Program, eligible airmen can combine their re-enlistment years and months to match their retirement date in one selection."

The program will give airmen more control over their careers and allow them to maximize their Selective Re-enlistment Bonus entitlements, AFPC officials said.

For more information about the Full Enlistment Program, call the re-enlistment office at 884-2703. (AFPN)

115 airmen graduate from CCAF

One hundred and fifteen airmen graduate from the Community College of the Air Force in a ceremony this morning at The Soundside. Congratulations to the following individuals:

Aircraft Armament Systems Technology

Master Sgts. **Rodney Haddock, Brian Kelso, and Dennis Shindle** and Tech. Sgt. **William Fletcher**

Aircraft Systems Maintenance Technology

Master Sgt. **Sabrina Bifulco**; Tech. Sgts. **Timothy Espinoza** and **Charles Zepp**; Staff Sgts. **Anthony Coats, Aaron Maurer** and **Taylor Welch**; and Senior Airman **Russ Landry**

Airframe Repair Technology

Senior Airman **Gregory Lathinghouse**

Airport Resource Management

Master Sgt. **Kenneth Ritsema**

Airway Science

Master Sgt. **Joseph Kimmerle** and Staff Sgt. **Richard Lubben**

Allied Health Services

Tech. Sgt. **Scott Strickland**

Aviation Maintenance Technology

Master Sgts. **Gregory Carrozza, Donald Grant, Natalie Gregory-McCutchan** and **Daniel Laurita** and Staff Sgts. **Edward Cutchen** and **Michael Jordan**

Aviation Operations

Master Sgts. **Michael Campbell, Ralph**

Gurganus, Todd McGee and **Brian Mitchell**; Tech. Sgts. **Norman Callahan II, Douglas Gosch** and **Patrick Hogan**; and Staff Sgts. **Anthony Coats** and **Kenneth Price Jr.**

Avionic Systems Technology

Master Sgts. **George Carter, James Davis, Rafael Gomez, Andrew Hollis** and **Peter Jacobs**; Tech. Sgt. **Timothy Layton**; Staff Sgts. **Rodney Brooks, Cleophus Burks III, John Gardner** and **Joey Morrisette**; and Senior Airmen **Christopher Furtado, Leocadio Garza, Brian Hray, Brent Keeten, Kevin Kolb, Kristopher Morse, Paul Pighee Jr., Sarai Robinson** and **Andrew Westling IV**

Bioenvironmental Engineering Technology

Senior Airman **Tina Michel**

Communications Applications Technology

Master Sgt. **David Grubbs**; Staff Sgts. **David Allen** and **Kevin Rotino**; and Senior Airman **Phillip State Jr.**

Construction Technology

Staff Sgt. **Matthew Moore**

Contracts Management

Master Sgt. **Donald Bailey**

Criminal Justice

Staff Sgt. **James Gagnon III**

Disaster Preparedness

Master Sgt. **Christopher Clauser**

Ecological Controls

Tech. Sgts. **Thomas Guarino** and **John Turner** and Staff Sgt. **Scott Smith**

Education and Training Management

Master Sgt. **Andrew Hollis**

Electronic Systems Technology

Master Sgt. **Mark Monno**; Staff Sgt. **Scott Baum**; and Senior Airman **Amanda Warr**

Fitness, Recreation and Services Mangement

Staff Sgt. **Ruben Quinterofarias**

Flight Engineering

Master Sgt. **Donald Wilson** and Tech Sgts. **Robert Carreiro** and **John McGuire**

Information Management

Tech. Sgt. **Melvin Pitt**

Information Systems Technology

Master Sgt. **Eric Kibby** and Staff Sgts. **Robert Basch, Donald Beede, Charlotte Costa, Richard Lubben, Regina Pitner, Stephen Swails** and **Mark Veres**

Instructor of Technology and Military Science

Master Sgts. **Ralph Ley, Albert Puentes** and **Terry Warren**; Tech. Sgt. **Daniel Perez II**; and Staff Sgts. **Joseph Cornett, Brad Donald, Grant Furst, Tony Hudnall, Paul McAmish, and Anthony Miller**

Logistics

Master Sgt. **Harold Gaines**; Tech. Sgts. **Charles Parish** and **Edgardo Ramirez**; and Senior Airman **Brian Hockersmith**

Maintenance Production Management

Master Sgt. **Rafael Gomez**

Mechanical and Electrical Technology

Master Sgt. **James Shomin** and Tech. Sgt. **James Bodison**

Medical Laboratory Technology

Senior Airman **Tabitha Hayes**

Mental Health Services

Staff Sgt. **Symika Taylor**

Paralegal

Tech. Sgt. **Mary Reid**

Personnel Administration

Senior Master Sgt. **Michael Mack**; Master Sgts. **Mitchell Bell** and **Gary Carlson**; and Staff Sgt. **Stephen Sexton**

Public Affairs

Master Sgt. **Cathy Landroche**

Safety

Tech. Sgt. **Wyzon Miller**

Security Administration

Staff Sgt. **Douglas Isaacks**

Survival and Rescue

Tech. Sgt. **Gavin Burns**, Staff Sgt. **Albert Braddock Jr.** and Senior Airman **John Chilcoat**

Transportation

Tech. Sgt. **Gregory Rothwell**; Staff Sgt. **Marian Goins**; and Senior Airman **Melissa Valencia**

Weather Technology

Master Sgt. **Michael Thompson**; Tech. Sgts. **Jeffrey Barker** and **Thomas Cardinal**; and Staff Sgt. **Adam Christian**

DOD examines company grade officer's retention

by **Jim Garamone**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON—Officer retention patterns are changing, causing the services increasing worry about continuation rates, particularly among O-3s.

Anecdotal reports to Department of Defense officials suggest Army, Air Force and Marine Corps captains and Navy lieutenants are leaving the military in numbers not seen since 1973 — the founding of the all-volunteer force. If the stories are accurate, the services might find trouble ahead when it comes time to pick promotion-worthy O-3s — they prefer large candidate pools, but might not have that luxury in some specialties.

A hot economy is partly to blame, said service officials, but exit interviews with departing officers seem to indicate a growing disenchantment with military life.

Army officials said departing officers most frequently mentioned operations tempo and personnel tempo as major irritants during exit interviews. The officers said they saw deployed time growing and felt they couldn't take even more time away from their families.

The problem doesn't appear to be as acute in other services, except in certain technical and aviation specialties.

Navy Vice Adm. Patricia Tracey, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military personnel policy, said another contributing factor may be the services misreading their needs and not making enough O-3s to start with during the draw-down. In some important skill areas, she said, some services won't have as many O-3s as needed to allow them the O-4 promotion selectivity they'd like.

She also noted a slight change in the continuation patterns of service academy and ROTC graduates. DOD is watching that situation — there's no panic, she said.

"The track record's not long enough for us to know exactly how big that problem is. It may be an anomaly that corrects itself in the next several years because of other things we are doing," she said.

But there's really little that any

higher headquarters can do in respect to retention. "Retention generally is not an issue you can address from a headquarters level," she said. "It's really difficult to make systemic changes that address this type of issue."

"You really do have to have a command climate ... that is conducive to retention, that's conducive to people really being excited about continuing military life," Admiral Tracey said.

Some news stories say that junior officers are leaving because the military "isn't fun anymore." "I've heard that for 30 years, that it isn't fun anymore," the admiral said. "I haven't yet been able to figure out exactly what the systemic issues are that would need to be addressed."

Other young officers complain that a "zero defect" mentality in the military leads senior officers to "micro-manage."

"Look at the people who are in command right now. These are the men and women who were the survivors of the downsizing," Admiral Tracey said. "The commanders' attitudes have to have been colored by that experience — they saw who retired early or who was asked to leave," she said.

"So some attention to reinforcing their role as mentors and to preparing their junior officers for the environment they'll serve in — not the environment that current O-5 and O-6 commanders experienced when they were junior officers — is probably merited," Admiral Tracey said. She admitted, though, that the zero-defects attitude has been a "pretty pervasive and constant drumbeat for the past several years."

She said she hasn't seen a zero-defects mentality in the selection boards she has participated in, but said the view persists and DOD must overcome it.

"Commanders must restore a sense of trust in the system," she said. "The department needs people who're willing to take prudent risks and it must prove that it's the kind of organization that rewards people who take risks that are prudent and well-thought out, whether they lead to success or failure."

FEATURE

Police week

The 16th Security Forces Squadron hosted the National Police Week SWAT competition here May 17 and Friday. Eleven civilian law enforcement agencies participated: Florida Highway Patrol; Fort Walton Beach, Pensacola and Panama City Police Departments, Escambia, Santa Rosa and Okaloosa County Sheriffs; Mobile County, Ala. Sheriffs; and Okaloosa, Gulf and Apalachee Corrections Institutions.

Officers and deputies participated in the obstacle course, team pistol shoot, downed officer

water rescue, building entry and tug of war.

Okaloosa Corrections Institution won first place. Gulf Corrections Institution won second, and Pensacola Police Department Team Two won third.

Another individual competition – sniper – was taken by the Panama City Police Department.

(Top left) A shell flies from a Panama City police officer's 9 mm pistol during the team pistol shoot.

(Top right) A Pensacola police officer scales a wall during the obstacle course.

(Bottom left) A member of the Pensacola team storms a building filled with "enemies" during the building entry competition. **(Bottom right)** Okaloosa Sheriffs beach their inflatable boat after completing downed officer water rescue.



**Photos by
Tech. Sgt. Vic Owens**

LIFESTYLE

Military

NCOA meeting

Hurlburt Field's Commando NCO Association chapter holds its monthly meeting Saturday at 6 p.m. in J.R. Rockers' Daytona Room. Each member is requested to bring a friend or another member. Topics include upcoming base/community events. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Bob Love at 884-4995 or Master Sgt. Chuck Glotzbach at 884-7373.

Recruiter team visits

People can learn more about the challenges and rewards of recruiting duty when the Recruiter Screening Team visits Hurlburt Field Thursday at 1 p.m., with a one-hour briefing in the 823rd RED HORSE Squadron compound theater, building 91105. Senior airmen through master sergeants with less than 16 years total active federal military service are eligible to apply. Spouses are also encouraged to attend.

ALS position open

Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., seeks a highly-motivated staff sergeant to serve as an instructor at the base's Airman Leadership School. People interested in this position should call DSN 493-2415 for more information.

Olmstead Scholar Program

The Olmstead Scholar Program provides an opportunity for up to officers to study in a foreign language university abroad. Applications must be sent to the Air Force Personnel Center by Oct. 1. For more information about the program and eligibility criteria, call 884-5251 or visit military personnel flight customer service.

Wing Officer's Call

Col. David Scott, 16 Special Operations Wing commander, hosts his quarterly Officer's Call at The Soundside Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. This formation is for all wing officers and any tenant commanders wishing to attend. E-mail questions or comments to the event coordinator, Capt Eric Ensley, 16th Logistics Group executive officer.

Community

CCAF graduation

The Hurlburt Field Education Center is closed today from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the spring Community College of the Air Force graduation. Everyone is invited to come out and congratulate the graduates today at 8:30 a.m. at The Soundside.

Claims against airmen

Airman 1st Class John D. Meade, a member of the 16th Aircraft Generation Squadron, passed away May 8 as a result of a single vehicle accident.

Anyone with a claim for or against Airman Meade should contact Capt. Harry Seibert, 16th AGS, at 884-8468.

Airman 1st Class Brandon Beard, a member of the 4th Aircraft Maintenance Unit, passed away May 15 as a result of a single vehicle accident.

Anyone with a claim for or against Airman Beard should contact 1st Lt. Louie Cumming, 4th AMU, at 884-8507.

TMO closure

The Transportation Management Office's Personal Property, Passenger and Freight Sections are closed today through Monday. Customers are advised to plan accordingly.

Block party

A Spring block party is today from 4 to 11 p.m. at J.R. Rockers. Dance to the sounds of Jones & Company and Disc Jockey Latin Soul Brother. Food booths, a game booth and drink specials are available.

OWCC mini-term

New and returning students may register now through June 22 for a six-week summer mini-term at Okaloosa-Walton Community College. The mini-term allows students to earn all the credit of a normal college term in a compressed period of time. Class dates are June 18 to July 31. Classes are offered at OWCC's Hurlburt Field, Eglin Air Force Base and Niceville locations. Civilian students may register for and attend courses at the base education centers. Call 729-6922, or visit the college Web site at www.owcc.cc.fl.us, for a course listing.

Animal show

The June show at the Art Center Gallery of the Arts and Design Society of Fort Walton Beach features studies of animals. "Animals, Birds, Bees and Bugs" is an exhibition of ADSO members' original art works. The show opens Tuesday and continues through June 24.

Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 4 p.m. and 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. The gallery is located at 17 First Street, S.E. For more information, call 244-1271.

Library activities

Once Upon a Thursday – The base library's story hour is every Thursday at 10 a.m. at the base theater. Today, children will learn about moving day and listen to stories of people who have moved, to show them maybe it's not so bad.

Summer Reading Program – The library begins its summer reading program June 6. Reading logs will be available beginning Tuesday. Children can keep track of their summer reading and participate in special programs at the base theater every Wednesday at 1 p.m. through July 18. A season awards carnival wraps up the fun.

Classes

FSC

For more information on family support center classes, call 884-5441.

Moms, Pops and Tots – Tuesday, at 10 a.m. for children from birth to age 2 and Wednesday, at 10 for ages 2 to 4.

Veteran's Affairs/Society Security Briefing – Wednesday, at 7:30 a.m. at the base theater. Call 884-6281 for reservations.

Deployment Readiness – Thursday, at 9 a.m. to prepare individuals and couples for deployment, temporary duty assignments and remote tours.

Hurlburt Field Chapel (884-7795)



Catholic Masses

Saturday, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, 7:30 and 10 a.m.

Confessions: Saturday, 4:30 to 5 p.m., or by request.

Youth: 5 p.m. Sunday

Religious Education: September – May

Protestant Services

Sunday, 8:45 a.m. (praise & worship), 11:15 a.m. (traditional), 12:30 p.m. (Gospel)

Religious Education: August – May
Youth and Singles groups available

Jewish Services (882-2111)

Sabbath services: Friday, 7:30 p.m., Eglin Chapel 1

Havdallah services: next-to-the-last Saturday of each month, 7 p.m., Chapel annex

Muslim Services (882-2111)

Jumuah: Friday, 12:45 p.m.

Qur'an: Saturday, 6 p.m.

At the movies



Prices are \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Movies start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise indicated.

Hurlburt Field (884-7648)

Friday and Sunday – (R) "Enemy at the Gates," starring Jude Law and Ed Harris – With word of a Russian sniper, expert Nazi sniper Major Koenig is sent to Stalingrad to seek out and kill any sniper he might find. He soon finds himself locked in a duel of snipers – two men seeking to put a bullet in the other's skull.

Saturday Matinee – (G) "Pokeman 3," animated – The strange Pokemon Annon comes to a girl named Mi because of a strange card left by her father. With the help of Annon, a crystal begins to enwrap a tower. Mi's solitude and loneliness makes the entire tower a crystal.

Saturday Evening – (PG-13) "Josie and the Pussycats," starring Rachel Leigh Cook and Tara Reid – A group of life-long friends are determined to take their band out of the garage and into the stratosphere. Their look's not trendy and neither is their sound, but they understand that real musicians have to pay their dues. Then one day everything changes. Josie and the Pussycats are "discovered."

Eglin (882-1066)

Friday – (R) "Blow," starring Johnny Depp and Penelope Cruz – George was just your average small-town American boy who decided to pursue the American dream his way – by becoming the first American to import cocaine into the United States on a large-scale. But no matter what he did, he could never get the only thing he truly wanted: a love that couldn't be taken from him.

Saturday – (PG-13) "Someone Like You," starring Ashley Judd and Greg Kinnear – Jane has everything going for her with her daytime talk show and her hot romance. She begins an extensive study of male behavior to try to find out what makes men tick. Her "research" leads her to become an overnight sensation/guru for single women everywhere.

Sunday – (R) "Freddy Got Fingered," starring Drew Barrymore and Marisa Coughlan – When the 28-year-old Gord decides he wants to be an animator, quits his job and returns home to live in his parents' basement, his father is neither amused nor proud.

(Editor's note: Movies are subject to change. Telephone numbers are provided for patrons to confirm scheduled play dates.)

SPORTS

Troop shoots hoops for AF team

by **Airman Sam Taylor**
Public Affairs

Airman 1st Class Monica Jackson, 20th Special Operations Squadron, played for the Air Force women's basketball team during the 2001 Armed Forces Women's Basketball Championship, held April 23 to 28 in Quantico, Va.

Airman Jackson was one of 28 people hand-selected to play on the team, which went up against the best of the Army, Marines and Navy.

The Air Force team got third place, barely losing to the Navy team for the chance to go up against the Army, the winners of the tournament, for the title.

"We had a great team," said Airman Jackson, "a lot of talent. I was actually nervous because with 28 people you're competing against other people to play your own position, and all of these girls were good."

A seasoned player, Airman Jackson began playing basketball on a team as a sophomore in high school, eventually going all the way to Fontbonne College in St. Louis with basketball and soc-

cer scholarships, where she earned a bachelor's degree before joining the Air Force.

"I didn't know how competitive [the competition] would be," said Airman Jackson. "I played at a college level, and [the tournament was still] very competitive. The players were very good."

To get on the team, Airman Jackson had to fill out an Air Force form 303 – basically like a job application for a sport. The form asks about individuals' sports statistics, past awards, what teams he or she plays for, etc.

It's these forms that are considered when players for the Air Force team are chosen to try out. "That's why you have to juice them up," said Airman Jackson. Tryouts for the team were held at Davis Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

After the tournament, three players are chosen from each service branch's team to compose a national team to play in a pro-am tournament.

Although she wasn't able to go to the all armed forces tryouts, Airman Jackson said she was lucky to be able to play on the

Air Force team this year, due to squadron activities and short manning.

"This year we had a lot of deployments going on in our squadron, so it was really surprising that I was able to attend. My commander and supervisor were the ones who were able to make this happen for me."

Airman Jackson would like to see the same experience happen to others as well.

"Playing on an Air Force team is a great opportunity to get out there and really play," she said, "and even if you don't make the team, it's fun to go try out."

No tournament doesn't necessarily mean no sports action for Airman Jackson, either.

She plays on the Hurlburt Field women's varsity basketball team, and wants to see more people get involved.

The team is also looking for a coach – someone who has experience, talent and who's committed to the job, said Airman Jackson.

"There's talent on Hurlburt Field," she said. "I know they're out there, and they need to play on the base team."



Photo by Airman Sam Taylor

Airman 1st Class Monica Jackson, 20th Special Operations Squadron, shoots a layup in the main fitness center here.

Base offers variety of women's sports

by **2nd Lt. Rosemary Heiss**
Public Affairs

Since 1998, The Hurlburt Field Fitness Center has increased its sports participation and the number of sports to choose from, according to Christopher Myers, Hurlburt Field sports director.

Besides the additions of such sports as Over-40 Basketball and indoor soccer, a strong emphasis has been placed on increasing participation in women's sports.

"Growing up in a family of four sisters involved in many sports, I've always be-

lieved that sports programs should try to improve in the area of women's sports," Mr. Myers said.

The fitness center has increased participation by offering women's softball, flag football in the fall, basketball in the winter, 3-on-3 summer basketball, varsity basketball, and coed volleyball.

All intramural sports on Hurlburt are coed, but more individual sports for women were needed, he said.

Coed volleyball is standard volleyball with one change – one female must be on the floor at all times. Since this rule was

included, women's participation in volleyball has doubled, he said.

In most of the sports offered for women, the average number of participation has been about four to six teams with an average of 50-80 women involved.

"I feel this number could easily be a lot higher," the sport director said. "Everyone on base should realize that participation is open to not only active duty, but to family members 18 years and older, and out of high school."

Sometimes the word gets out through each squadron. Family members are usu-

ally the last to hear about these programs.

"I hope each squadron ensures the word gets out," he said. "I really hope to see more participation from family members. There are so many programs here for everyone."

Men's and women's 3-on-3-summer basketball gets under way soon and tryouts will begin for women's varsity basketball. Varsity practices will start in August, with games beginning in October. Check with squadron representatives for more information, or call the fitness center at 884-6949.

Visit the Hurlburt Field Homepage
www.hurlburt.af.mil